



Talks aimed at agreeing a new deal on climate change have begun in Copenhagen. The BBC correspondent says new pledges on emissions cuts by the United States, India and China have raised hopes that delegates will be able to reach a deal. Roger Harrabin reports:

The conference opened to applause forty minutes late. It began with **an environmental film** from Danish children, **a message** from the next generation for those delegates whose decisions here over the next fortnight may help **shape the lives they lead**.

34,000 people have tried **to get accredited** for this **extraordinary** meeting - an **unprecedented** demand.

Hopes are high here that a deal can be done **to lower emissions** and raise cash to help poor countries adapt to climate change and **obtain clean energy**. The question is whether that agreement will be strong enough **to meet the expectations** of those children of the future.

Roger Harrabin, BBC News, Copenhagen

Vocabulary and definitions

an environmental film	a film highlighting dangers to nature
a message	here, something important that you want others to understand
shape the lives they lead	help decide the way they live
to get accredited	to ensure they are allowed to attend
extraordinary	very different from others
unprecedented	like never before
hopes are high	many people hope (if you have high hopes for something, you have good reasons to believe it will happen although you cannot be certain)
to lower emissions	to reduce the amount of harmful gases produced by polluting factories, cars etc.
obtain clean energy	have sources of power that don't harm the atmosphere
to meet the expectations	if something meets your expectations, it gives you what you want and demand

More on this story: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/sci_tech/2009/copenhagen/default.stm

Read and listen to the story and the vocabulary online:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/wordsinthenews/2009/12/091207_witn_copenhagen_summit.shtml